

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Page 13: 2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph bridging pages 13 and 14, please amend as indicated below:

In a mechanism in which the filtration/back-filtration fluid supply means and the water removing and fluid discharge means are separate from each other (~~set forth in claim 1~~), when the water removing and fluid discharge means is activated independently, the removal of water is carried out independently regardless of the filtration/back-filtration pattern. When the apparatus comprises polyfunctional filtration control means which serves as two fluid supply means (~~set forth in claim 23~~), the fluid supply rate in the fluid discharge direction (normal direction) of the control means is increased by the water removing rate, whereby the removal of water is carried out independently regardless of the filtration/back-filtration pattern.